In the claims:

1. (original) A compound of Formula I:

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
R_7 & R_6 & R_5 \\
R_8 & R_9 & R_2 \\
R_1 & I
\end{array}$$

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or stereoisomer thereof, wherein

a is 0 or 1; b is 0 or 1; m is 0, 1, or 2; r is 0 or 1; s is 0 or 1; and u is 2, 3, 4 or 5;

a dashed line represents an optional double bond, provided that one and only one double bond is present in the ring;

R1 is selected from:

- 1) $(C=O)O-C_1-C_{10}$ alkyl,
- 2) (C=O)O-aryl,
- 3) (C=O)O-C₂-C₁₀ alkenyl,
- 4) (C=O)O-C2-C10 alkynyl,
- 5) (C=O)O-C3-C8 cycloalkyl, and
- 6) (C=O)O-heterocyclyl,

said alkyl, aryl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl and heterocyclyl is optionally substituted with one or more substituents selected from R¹⁰;

R² and R⁶ are independently selected from:

- 1) aryl,
- 2) C₁-C₆ aralkyl,
- 3) C3-C8 cycloalkyl, and
- 4) heterocyclyl,

said aryl, cycloalkyl, aralkyl and heterocyclyl is optionally substituted with one or more substituents selected from R¹⁰;

provided that R² and R⁶ are not both an unsubstituted aryl selected from phenyl and naphthyl;

 R^3 , R^4 , R^5 , R^7 , R^8 , and R^9 are independently selected from:

- 1) H,
- 2) C₁-C₁₀ alkyl,
- 3) aryl,
- 4) C2-C₁₀ alkenyl,
- 5) C2-C₁₀ alkynyl,
- 6) C₁-C₆ perfluoroalkyl,
- 7) C₁-C₆ aralkyl,
- 8) C3-C8 cycloalkyl, and
- 9) heterocyclyl,

said alkyl, aryl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl, aralkyl and heterocyclyl is optionally substituted with one or more substituents selected from R^{10} ; or

 R^4 and R^5 , or R^8 and R^9 , attached to the same carbon atom are combined to form -(CH₂)_u- wherein one of the carbon atoms is optionally replaced by a moiety selected from O, $S(O)_m$, -N(R^a)C(O)-, -N(R^b)- and -N(COR^a)-;

 R^{10} is independently selected from:

1) $(C=O)_aO_bC_1-C_{10}$ alkyl,

- 2) $(C=O)_aO_baryl$,
- 3) C2-C₁₀ alkenyl,
- 4) C2-C₁₀ alkynyl,
- 5) (C=O)_aO_b heterocyclyl,
- 6) CO₂H,
- 7) halo,
- 8) CN,
- 9) OH,
- 10) ObC1-C6 perfluoroalkyl,
- 11) $O_a(C=O)_bNR^{12}R^{13}$,
- 12) $S(O)_m R^a$,
- 13) $S(O)_2NR^{12}R^{13}$,
- 14) oxo,
- 15) CHO,
- $(N=O)R^{12}R^{13}$, and
- 17) (C=O)aObC3-C8 cycloalkyl,

said alkyl, aryl, alkenyl, alkynyl, heterocyclyl, and cycloalkyl optionally substituted with one or more substituents selected from R¹¹;

R¹¹ is selected from:

- 1) $(C=O)_rO_s(C_1-C_{10})$ alkyl,
- 2) $O_r(C_1-C_3)$ perfluoroalkyl,
- 3) (C_0-C_6) alkylene- $S(O)_mR^a$,
- 4) oxo,
- 5) OH,
- 6) halo,
- 7) CN,
- 8) $(C=O)_rO_s(C_2-C_{10})$ alkenyl,
- 9) $(C=O)_rO_s(C_2-C_{10})$ alkynyl,
- 10) $(C=O)_rO_s(C_3-C_6)$ cycloalkyl,
- 11) $(C=O)_rO_s(C_0-C_6)$ alkylene-aryl,
- 12) $(C=O)_rO_S(C_0-C_6)$ alkylene-heterocyclyl,

- 13) $(C=O)_rO_s(C_0-C_6)$ alkylene- $N(R^b)_2$,
- $C(O)R^a$,
- 15) (C0-C6)alkylene-CO2Ra,
- 16) C(O)H,
- 17) (C₀-C₆)alkylene-CO₂H,
- 18) $C(O)N(R^b)_2$,
- 19) S(O)_mRa, and
- 20) $S(O)_2N(R^b)_2$

said alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, alkylene and heterocyclyl is optionally substituted with up to three substituents selected from R^b, OH, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy, halogen, CO₂H, CN, O(C=O)C₁-C₆ alkyl, oxo, and N(R^b)₂;

R12 and R13 are independently selected from:

- 1) H,
- 2) $(C=O)O_bC_1-C_{10}$ alkyl,
- 3) (C=O)ObC3-C8 cycloalkyl,
- 4) (C=O)Obaryl,
- 5) (C=O)Obheterocyclyl,
- 6) C₁-C₁₀ alkyl,
- 7) aryl,
- 8) C2-C₁₀ alkenyl,
- 9) C2-C₁₀ alkynyl,
- 10) heterocyclyl,
- 11) C3-C8 cycloalkyl,
- 12) SO₂Ra, and
- 13) $(C=O)NRb_2$,

said alkyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, heterocylyl, alkenyl, and alkynyl is optionally substituted with one or more substituents selected from R¹¹, or

 R^{12} and R^{13} can be taken together with the nitrogen to which they are attached to form a monocyclic or bicyclic heterocycle with 5-7 members in each ring and optionally containing, in addition to the nitrogen, one or two additional heteroatoms selected from N, O and S, said

monocyclic or bicyclic heterocycle optionally substituted with one or more substituents selected from R¹¹;

Ra is (C1-C6)alkyl, (C3-C6)cycloalkyl, aryl, or heterocyclyl; and

Rb is H, (C1-C6)alkyl, aryl, heterocyclyl, (C3-C6)cycloalkyl, (C=O)OC1-C6alkyl, (C=O)C1-C6 alkyl or S(O)2Ra.

2. (original) A compound of the Formula II,

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
R^4 \\
R^3 \\
R^2 \\
R^8 \\
II
\end{array}$$

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or stereoisomer thereof, wherein

a is 0 or 1; b is 0 or 1; m is 0, 1, or 2; r is 0 or 1; s is 0 or 1;

a dashed line represents an optional double bond, provided that one and only one double bond is present in the ring;

R¹ is selected from:

- 1) (C=O)O-C₁-C₁₀ alkyl,
- 2) (C=O)O-aryl,

- $(C=O)O-C_2-C_{10}$ alkenyl,
- 4) (C=O)O-C2-C10 alkynyl,
- 5) (C=O)O-C3-C8 cycloalkyl, and
- 6) (C=O)O-heterocyclyl,

said alkyl, aryl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl, heteroaryl and heterocyclyl is optionally substituted with one or more substituents selected from R¹⁰;

R² and R⁶ are independently selected from:

- 1) aryl,
- 2) C₁-C₆ aralkyl,
- 3) C3-C8 cycloalkyl, and
- 4) heterocyclyl,

said aryl, cycloalkyl, aralkyl and heterocyclyl is optionally substituted with one or more substituents selected from R¹⁰;

provided that R² and R⁶ are not both an unsubstituted aryl selected from phenyl and naphthyl;

R³, R⁴ and R⁸ are independently selected from:

- 1) H,
- 2) C₁-C₁₀ alkyl,
- 3) aryl,
- 4) C2-C₁₀ alkenyl,
- 5) C2-C₁₀ alkynyl,
- 6) C₁-C₆ perfluoroalkyl,
- 7) C₁-C₆ aralkyl,
- 8) C3-C8 cycloalkyl, and
- 9) heterocyclyl,

said alkyl, aryl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl, aralkyl and heterocyclyl is optionally substituted with one or more substituents selected from R¹⁰;

R¹⁰ is independently selected from:

1) $(C=O)_aO_bC_1-C_{10}$ alkyl,

- 2) $(C=O)_aO_baryl$,
- 3) C2-C₁₀ alkenyl,
- 4) C2-C₁₀ alkynyl,
- 5) (C=O)_aO_b heterocyclyl,
- 6) CO₂H,
- 7) halo,
- 8) CN,
- 9) OH,
- 10) ObC1-C6 perfluoroalkyl,
- 11) $O_a(C=O)_bNR^{12}R^{13}$,
- 12) $S(O)_mR^a$,
- 13) $S(O)_2NR_{12}R_{13}$,
- 14) oxo,
- 15) CHO,
- $(N=O)R^{12}R^{13}$, and
- 17) (C=O)_aO_bC₃-C₈ cycloalkyl,

said alkyl, aryl, alkenyl, alkynyl, heterocyclyl, and cycloalkyl optionally substituted with one, two or three substituents selected from R¹¹;

R11 is selected from:

- 1) $(C=O)_rO_s(C_1-C_{10})$ alkyl,
- 2) $O_r(C_1-C_3)$ perfluoroalkyl,
- 3) oxo,
- 4) OH,
- 5) halo,
- 6) CN,
- 7) (C2-C₁₀)alkenyl,
- 8) (C₂-C₁₀)alkynyl,
- 9) $(C=O)_rO_s(C_3-C_6)$ cycloalkyl,
- 10) $(C=O)_rO_s(C_0-C_6)$ alkylene-aryl,
- 11) $(C=O)_rO_s(C_0-C_6)$ alkylene-heterocyclyl,
- 12) $(C=O)_rO_s(C_0-C_6)$ alkylene- $N(R^b)_2$,

- $C(O)R^a$
- 14) (C₀-C₆)alkylene-CO₂R^a,
- 15) C(O)H,
- 16) (C₀-C₆)alkylene-CO₂H,
- 17) $C(O)N(R^b)_2$,
- 18) $S(O)_mR^a$, and
- 19) $S(O)_2N(R^b)_2$;

said alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, alkylene and heterocyclyl is optionally substituted with up to three substituents selected from R^b, OH, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy, halogen, CO₂H, CN, O(C=O)C₁-C₆ alkyl, oxo, and N(R^b)₂;

R¹² and R¹³ are independently selected from:

- 1) H,
- 2) $(C=O)O_bC_1-C_{10}$ alkyl,
- 3) (C=O)ObC3-C8 cycloalkyl,
- 4) (C=O)Obaryl,
- 5) (C=O)Obheterocyclyl,
- 6) C₁-C₁₀ alkyl,
- 7) aryl,
- 8) C2-C₁₀ alkenyl,
- 9) C_2 - C_{10} alkynyl,
- 10) heterocyclyl,
- 11) C3-C8 cycloalkyl,
- 12) SO₂Ra, and
- 13) $(C=O)NRb_2$,

said alkyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, heterocylyl, alkenyl, and alkynyl is optionally substituted with one, two or three substituents selected from R¹¹, or

R¹² and R¹³ can be taken together with the nitrogen to which they are attached to form a monocyclic or bicyclic heterocycle with 5-7 members in each ring and optionally containing, in addition to the nitrogen, one or two additional heteroatoms selected from N, O and S, said

monocyclic or bicyclic heterocycle optionally substituted with one, two or three substituents selected from R¹¹;

Ra is (C1-C6)alkyl, (C3-C6)cycloalkyl, aryl, or heterocyclyl; and

Rb is H, (C1-C6)alkyl, aryl, heterocyclyl, (C3-C6)cycloalkyl, (C=O)OC1-C6alkyl, (C=O)C1-C6alkyl or S(O)₂Ra.

3. (original) The compound according to Claim 2 of the formula III:

$$R^{10}$$
 R^{4}
 R^{3}
 R^{10}
 R^{10}
 R^{10}
 R^{10}
 R^{10}
 R^{10}
 R^{10}
 R^{10}

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or stereoisomer thereof, wherein:

a is 0 or 1; b is 0 or 1; m is 0, 1, or 2; r is 0 or 1; s is 0 or 1;

R¹ is selected from:

- 1) $(C=O)O-C_1-C_{10}$ alkyl,
- 2) (C=O)O-aryl,
- 3) (C=O)O-C3-C8 cycloalkyl, and
- 4) (C=O)O-heterocyclyl,

said alkyl, aryl, cycloalkyl, heteroaryl and heterocyclyl is optionally substituted with one or more substituents selected from R¹⁰;

R³, R⁴ and R⁸ are independently selected from:

- 1) H,
- 2) C₁-C₁₀ alkyl, and
- 3) C₁-C₆ perfluoroalkyl,

said alkyl, aryl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl, aralkyl and heterocyclyl is optionally substituted with one or more substituents selected from R¹⁰;

R¹⁰ is independently selected from:

- 1) $(C=O)_aO_bC_1-C_{10}$ alkyl,
- 2) (C=O)_aO_baryl,
- 3) C2-C₁₀ alkenyl,
- 4) C2-C₁₀ alkynyl,
- 5) $(C=O)_aO_b$ heterocyclyl,
- 6) CO₂H,
- 7) halo,
- 8) CN,
- 9) OH,
- 10) ObC1-C6 perfluoroalkyl,
- 11) $O_a(C=O)_bNR^{12}R^{13}$,
- 12) $S(O)_m Ra$,
- 13) $S(O)_2NR^{12}R^{13}$,
- 14) oxo,
- 15) CHO,
- $(N=O)R^{12}R^{13}$, and
- 17) (C=O)_aO_bC₃-C₈ cycloalkyl,

said alkyl, aryl, alkenyl, alkynyl, heterocyclyl, and cycloalkyl optionally substituted with one, two or three substituents selected from R¹¹;

R10' is halogen;

R11 is selected from:

- 1) $(C=O)_rO_s(C_1-C_{10})$ alkyl,
- 2) $O_r(C_1-C_3)$ perfluoroalkyl,
- 3) oxo,
- 4) OH,
- 5) halo,
- 6) CN,
- 7) (C2-C₁₀)alkenyl,
- 8) (C2-C₁₀)alkynyl,
- 9) $(C=O)_rO_s(C_3-C_6)$ cycloalkyl,
- 10) $(C=O)_rO_s(C_0-C_6)$ alkylene-aryl,
- 11) $(C=O)_rO_s(C_0-C_6)$ alkylene-heterocyclyl,
- 12) $(C=O)_rO_s(C_0-C_6)$ alkylene- $N(R^b)_2$,
- $C(O)R^a$,
- 14) (C₀-C₆)alkylene-CO₂R^a,
- 15) C(O)H,
- 16) (C₀-C₆)alkylene-CO₂H,
- 17) $C(O)N(R^b)_2$,
- 18) $S(O)_mR^a$, and
- 19) $S(O)_2N(R^b)_2$:

said alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, alkylene and heterocyclyl is optionally substituted with up to three substituents selected from R^b, OH, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy, halogen, CO₂H, CN, O(C=O)C₁-C₆ alkyl, oxo, and N(R^b)₂;

R¹² and R¹³ are independently selected from:

- 1) H,
- 2) $(C=O)O_bC_1-C_{10}$ alkyl,
- 3) (C=O)ObC3-C8 cycloalkyl,
- 4) (C=O)Obaryl,
- 5) (C=O)Obheterocyclyl,

- 6) C₁-C₁₀ alkyl,
- 7) aryl,
- 8) C2-C₁₀ alkenyl,
- 9) C2-C₁₀ alkynyl,
- 10) heterocyclyl,
- 11) C3-C8 cycloalkyl,
- 12) SO₂Ra, and
- 13) $(C=O)NRb_2$,

said alkyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, heterocylyl, alkenyl, and alkynyl is optionally substituted with one, two or three substituents selected from R¹¹, or

 R^{12} and R^{13} can be taken together with the nitrogen to which they are attached to form a monocyclic or bicyclic heterocycle with 5-7 members in each ring and optionally containing, in addition to the nitrogen, one or two additional heteroatoms selected from N, O and S, said monocyclic or bicyclic heterocycle optionally substituted with one, two or three substituents selected from R^{11} :

Ra is independently selected from: (C1-C6)alkyl, (C3-C6)cycloalkyl, aryl, and heterocyclyl; and

Rb is independently selected from: H, (C1-C6)alkyl, aryl, heterocyclyl, (C3-C6)cycloalkyl, (C=O)OC1-C6 alkyl, (C=O)C1-C6 alkyl or S(O)2Ra.

4. (original) The compound according to Claim 3 of the formula III, or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt or stereoisomer thereof,

wherein:

said alkyl, is optionally substituted with one, two or three substituents selected from R¹⁰;

R³, R⁴ and R⁸ are independently selected from:

1) H, and

2) C_1 - C_{10} alkyl, said alkyl is optionally substituted with one or more substituents selected from R^{10} ; and R^{10} , R^{11} , R^{12} , R^{13} , R^{13} and R^{10} are as described in Claim 3.

(original) A compound selected from:

5.

- methyl 4-(2,5-difluorophenyl)-2-phenyl-2,5-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrole-1-carboxylate; allyl 4-(2,5-difluorophenyl)-2-phenyl-2,5-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrole-1-carboxylate; ethyl 4-(2,5-difluorophenyl)-2-phenyl-2,5-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrole-1-carboxylate; phenyl 4-(2,5-difluorophenyl)-2-phenyl-2,5-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrole-1-carboxylate; isopropyl 4-(2,5-difluorophenyl)-2-phenyl-2,5-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrole-1-carboxylate; 2-(dimethylamino)-2-methylpropyl (2*S*)-4-(2,5-difluorophenyl)-2-phenyl-2,5-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrole-1-carboxylate; 2-aminoethyl (2*S*)-4-(2,5-difluorophenyl)-2-phenyl-2,5-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrole-1-carboxylate; 3-aminopropyl (2*S*)-4-(2,5-difluorophenyl)-2-phenyl-2,5-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrole-1-carboxylate; pyrrolidin-3-yl (2*S*)-4-(2,5-difluorophenyl)-2-phenyl-2,5-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrole-1-carboxylate; piperidin-4-yl (2*S*)-4-(2,5-difluorophenyl)-2-phenyl-2,5-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrole-1-carboxylate;
- 6. (original) The compound according to Claim 5 which is the TFA salt of a compound selected from:
- 2-(dimethylamino)-2-methylpropyl (2*S*)-4-(2,5-difluorophenyl)-2-phenyl-2,5-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrole-1-carboxylate;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or stereoisomer thereof.

2-aminoethyl (2S)-4-(2,5-difluorophenyl)-2-phenyl-2,5-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-1-carboxylate;

3-aminopropyl (2*S*)-4-(2,5-difluorophenyl)-2-phenyl-2,5-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrole-1-carboxylate; pyrrolidin-3-yl (2*S*)-4-(2,5-difluorophenyl)-2-phenyl-2,5-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrole-1-carboxylate; and piperidin-4-yl (2*S*)-4-(2,5-difluorophenyl)-2-phenyl-2,5-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrole-1-carboxylate.

- 7. (original) A pharmaceutical composition that is comprised of a compound in accordance with Claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
- 8. (original) A method of treating or preventing cancer in a mammal in need of such treatment that is comprised of administering to said mammal a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 1.
- 9. (original) A method of treating cancer or preventing cancer in accordance with Claim 8 wherein the cancer is selected from cancers of the brain, genitourinary tract, lymphatic system, stomach, larynx and lung.
- 10. (original) A method of treating or preventing cancer in accordance with Claim 8 wherein the cancer is selected from histiocytic lymphoma, lung adenocarcinoma, small cell lung cancers, pancreatic cancer, gioblastomas and breast carcinoma.
 - 11. (cancelled)
 - 12. (cancelled)
 - 13. (cancelled)
 - 14. (cancelled)
 - 15. (cancelled)
 - 16. (cancelled)

- 17. (cancelled)
- 18. (cancelled)
- 19. (cancelled)
- 20. (original) A method of treating cancer which comprises administering a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 1 in combination with radiation therapy.
- 21. (original) A method of treating or preventing cancer that comprises administering a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 1 in combination with a compound selected from:
 - 1) an estrogen receptor modulator,
 - 2) an androgen receptor modulator,
 - 3) a retinoid receptor modulator,
 - 4) a cytotoxic/cytostatic agent,
 - 5) an antiproliferative agent,
 - 6) a prenyl-protein transferase inhibitor,
 - 7) an HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor,
 - 8) an HIV protease inhibitor,
 - 9) a reverse transcriptase inhibitor,
 - 10) an angiogenesis inhibitor,
 - 11) PPAR-γ agonists,
 - 12) PPAR-δ agonists,
 - 13) an inhibitor of inherent multidrug resistance,
 - 14) an anti-emetic agent,
 - 15) an agent useful in the treatment of anemia,
 - an agent useful in the treatment of neutropenia,
 - 17) an immunologic-enhancing drug,
 - 18) an inhibitor of cell proliferation and survival signaling, and
 - 19) an agent that interfers with a cell cycle checkpoint.

- 22. (original) A method of treating cancer that comprises administering a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 1 in combination with radiation therapy and a compound selected from:
 - 1) an estrogen receptor modulator,
 - 2) an androgen receptor modulator,
 - 3) a retinoid receptor modulator,
 - 4) a cytotoxic/cytostatic agent,
 - 5) an antiproliferative agent,
 - 6) a prenyl-protein transferase inhibitor,
 - 7) an HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor,
 - 8) an HIV protease inhibitor,
 - 9) a reverse transcriptase inhibitor,
 - 10) an angiogenesis inhibitor,
 - 11) PPAR-γ agonists,
 - 12) PPAR- δ agonists,
 - 13) an inhibitor of inherent multidrug resistance,
 - 14) an anti-emetic agent,
 - 15) an agent useful in the treatment of anemia,
 - 16) an agent useful in the treatment of neutropenia,
 - 17) an immunologic-enhancing drug,
 - 18) an inhibitor of cell proliferation and survival signaling, and
 - 19) an agent that interfers with a cell cycle checkpoint.
- 23. (original) A method of treating or preventing cancer which comprises administering a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 1 and paclitaxel or trastuzumab.
 - 24. (cancelled)
 - 25. (cancelled)

26. (cancelled)

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- 27. (original) A method of treating or preventing cancer which comprises administering a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 1 in combination with a proteosome inhibitor.
- 28. (original) A method of treating or preventing cancer which comprises administering a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 1 in combination with an aurora kinase inhibitor.
- 29. (original) A method of treating or preventing cancer which comprises administering a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 1 in combination with a Raf kinase inhibitor.
- 30. (original) A method of treating or preventing cancer which comprises administering a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 1 in combination with a serine/threonine kinase inhibitor.
- 31. (original) A method of treating or preventing cancer which comprises administering a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 1 in combination with an inhibitor of a mitotic kinesin that is not KSP.
- 32. (original) A method of modulating mitotic spindle formation which comprises administering a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 1.
- 33. (original) A method of inhibiting the mitotic kinesin KSP which comprises administering a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 1.